

SIR,

Whitehall, 7th January, 1760.

HIS Majesty having nothing so much at Heart, as to improve the great and important Advantages gained the last Campaign in North-America, and not doubting that all his faithful and brave Subjects there will continue most chearfully to co-operate with, and second to the utmost, the large Expence, and extraordinary Succours, supplied by this Kingdom, for their Preservation and future Security; and his Majesty considering that the several Provinces, from Pennsylvania inclusive, to the Southward, are well able, with proper Encouragements, to furnish a Body of several Thousand Men to join the King's Forces in those Parts, for some offensive Operations against the Enemy; and his Majesty not judging it expedient to limit the Zeal and Ardour of any of his Provinces, by making a Repartition of the Forces to be raised by each respectively, for this most important Service; I am commanded to signify to you the King's Pleasure, that you do forthwith use your utmost Endeavours and Influence with the Council and Assembly of your Province, to induce them to raise, with all possible Dispatch, within your Government, as large a Body of Men, as the Number and Situation of it's Inhabitants may allow, (in the due Performance of which Service, it is hoped and expected they will not again fail in their Duty to the King, as they have done the two last Campaigns) and forming the same into Regiments, as far as shall be found convenient; that you do direct them to hold themselves in Readiness, as early as may be, to march to the Rendezvous, at such Place or Places as may be named for that Purpose by the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in America, or by the Officer who shall be appointed to command the King's Forces in those Parts, in order to proceed from thence, in Conjunction with a Body of his Majesty's British Forces, and under the supreme Command of the Officer to be appointed as above, so as to be in a Situation to begin by the first of May if possible, or as soon after as shall be any way practicable, such offensive Operations as shall be judged by the Commander of his Majesty's Forces in those Parts, most expedient for annoying the Enemy. And the better to facilitate this important Service, the King is pleased to leave it to you to issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of your Province, as you shall judge, from their Weight and Credit with the People, and their Zeal for the Public Service, may be best disposed and enabled to quicken and effectuate the speedy Levying of the greatest Number of Men; in the Disposition of which Commissions, I am persuaded, you will have nothing in View but the Good of the King's Service, and a due Subordination of the Whole, when joined to his Majesty's Commander: And all Officers of the Provincial Forces, as high as Colonels inclusive, are to have Rank according to their several respective Commissions, agreeable to the Regulations contained in his Majesty's Warrant of the 30th of December, 1757.

The King is further pleased to furnish all the Men, so raised as above, with Arms, Ammunition, and Tents, as well as to order Provisions to be issued to the same by his Majesty's Commissaries, in the same Proportion and Manner, as is done to the rest of the King's Forces; and a sufficient Train of Artillery will also be provided, at his Majesty's Expence, for the Operations of the Campaign. The Whole, therefore, that the King expects and requires from the several Provinces, is, the Levying, Cloathing, and Pay of the Men; and on these Heads also, that no Encouragement may be wanting to the fullest Exertion of your Force, his Majesty is farther most graciously pleased to permit me to acquaint you, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next Year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as above, according as the active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit. It is his Majesty's Pleasure, that you do, with particular Diligence, immediately collect, and put into the best Condition, all the Arms issued last Campaign, which can be anywise rendered serviceable, or that can be found within your Government, in order that the same may be employed as far as they will go in this Exigency. I am at the same Time to acquaint you, that a reasonable Supply of Arms will be sent from England to replace such as may have been lost, or have become unfit for future Service.

I am further to inform you, that similar Orders are sent by this Conveyance to Pennsylvania, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina.

The Northern Governments are also directed to raise Men in the same Manner, to be employed in such offensive Operations, as the Circumstances and Situation of the Enemy's Possessions in those Parts may point out, which, it is hoped, will oblige them so to divide their Attention and Forces, as will render the several Attempts more easy and successful.

It is unnecessary to add any Thing to animate your Zeal in the Execution of his Majesty's Orders on this great Occasion, where the future Safety and Welfare of America, and of your own Province in particular, are so nearly concerned; and the King doubts not, from your known Fidelity and Attachment, that you will employ yourself with the utmost Application and Dispatch in this promising and decisive Crisis.

I am, with great Truth and Regard, SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Copy.

W. PITT.